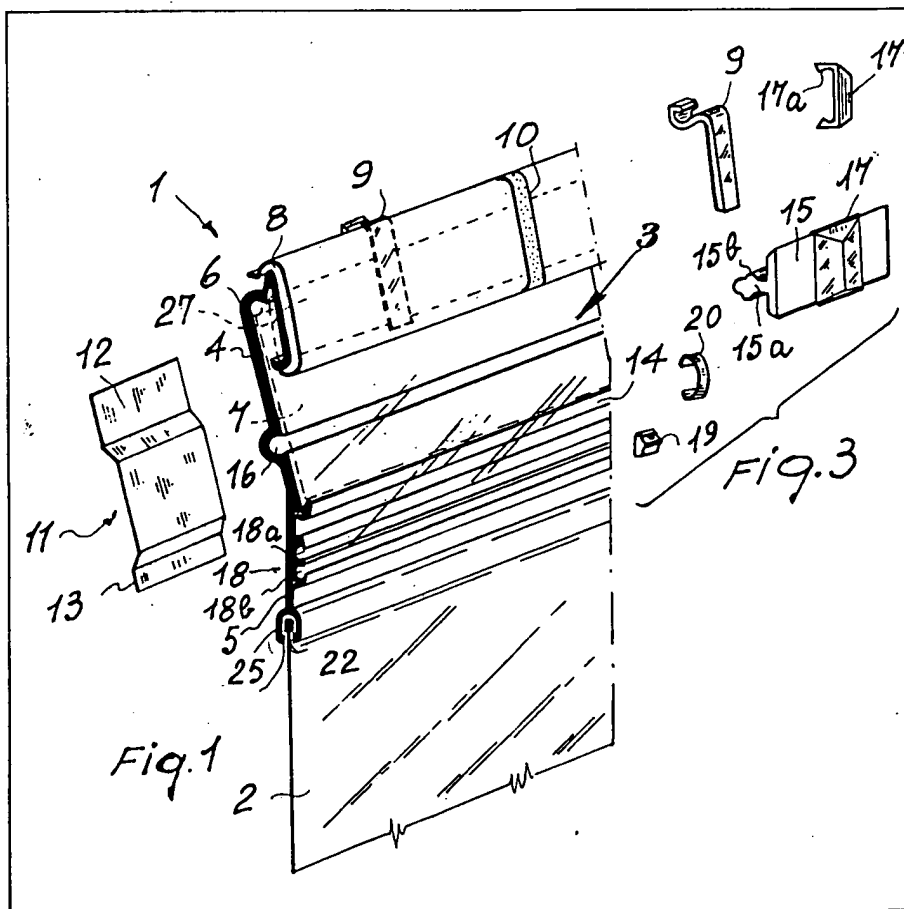


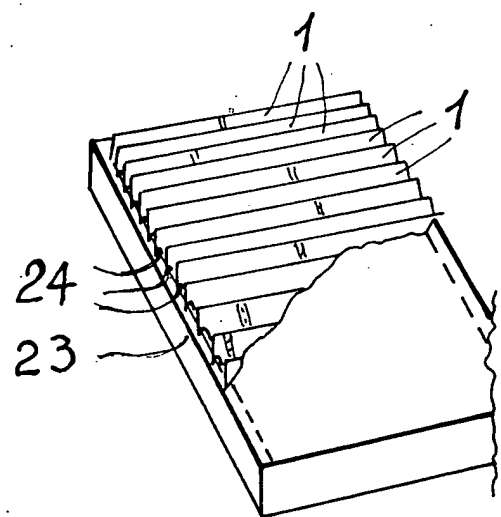
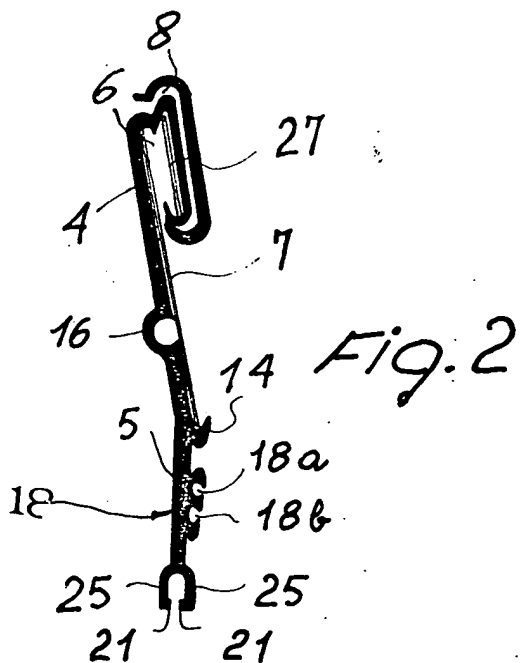
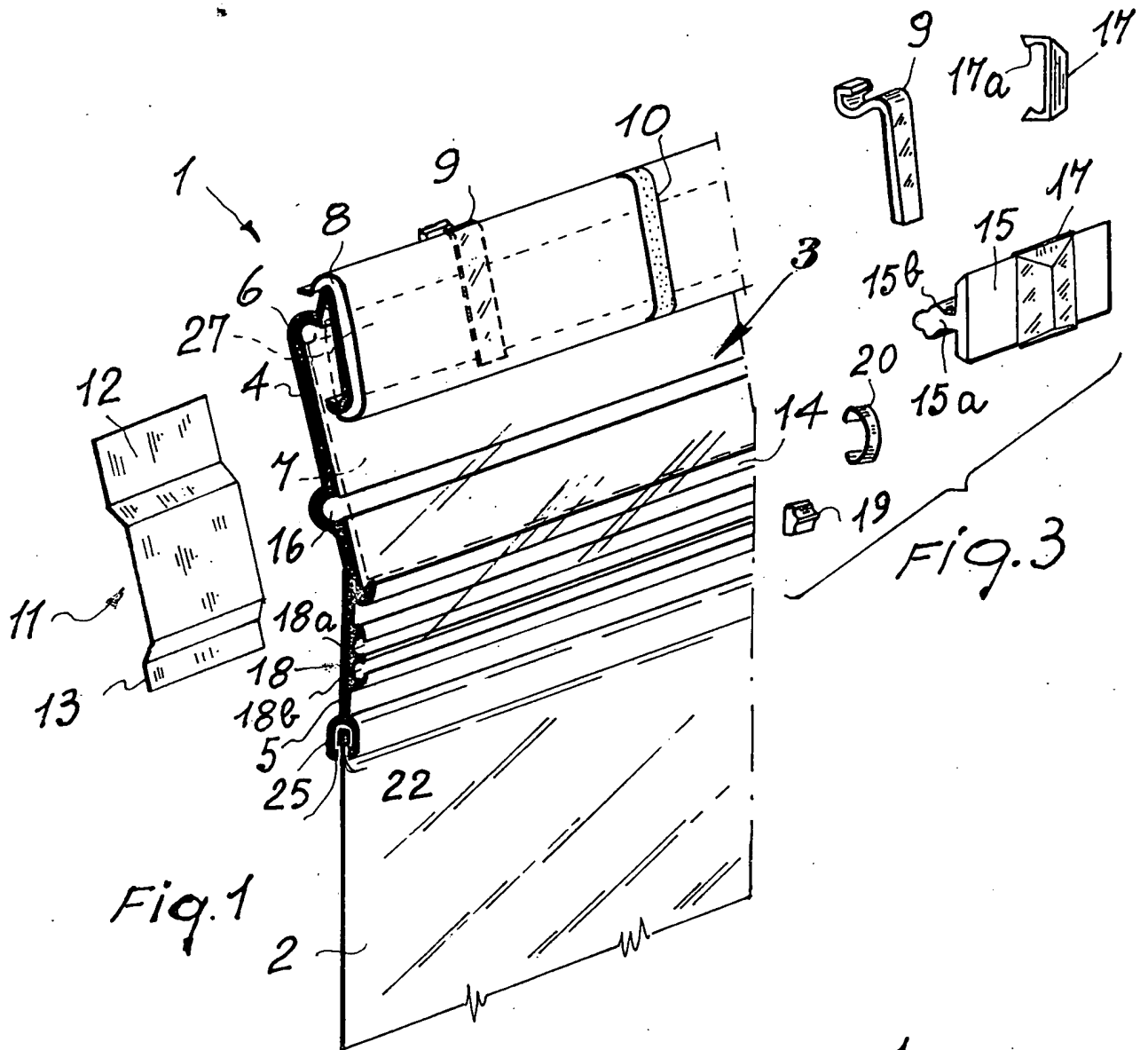
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(54) A support for a document holder

(57) An information presenting support for a document holder. The support comprises upper and lower strips 4, 5 inclined with respect to each other, the upper strip 4 having an information conveying scale 7, a first upper guide 8 along which one or more markers 9 is or are slidable and a face below said guide 8 across which a cursor 11 is slidable. The face has a groove 16 in which may be mounted an indicator 15 interchangeable with the cursor 11. The lower strip 5 is adapted to support a document holder 2.





SPECIFICATION

A support for a document holder

- 5 The present invention relates to a support for a document holder.

Traditional card indexes generally comprise two principle parts: a pocket in which a number of documents are held and a band-like unit designed to support the pocket within a container. This band-like component may comprise a single strip with markers movable in a vertical direction, or alternatively may comprise two parallel strips, slightly inclined in respect of one another, and there being horizontally movable markers on the upper strip. With particular reference to the latter type, the bottom strip, together with the document-holding pocket, is introduced into a container and the upper strip protrudes from the container to display selected information.

- 20 The information may for example be a schedule relating to work or to dates of arrival or shipments of goods, etc.

For the purpose of displaying information the upper strip has a bottom scale fitted thereto and there are provided one or more markers mounted in a slide produced in the upper strip. The markers operate in conjunction with a cursor located beneath the marker or markers, the cursor being slidable along a face of the upper strip beneath said slide. However the limited height of the upper strip protruding from the container, makes it possible to obtain only one type of scheduling, for example information relating to due dates. In fact one can only ever operate along two lines. For example the upper line may represent due dates which are marked by the positioning of the markers which fulfil a certain function in relation to some date which is visible on the bottom-scale. The position of the cursor on the bottom line represents the progressive working out of the functions indicated in the upper line and may be employed at most as an independent function relating to engagements, work or orders.

The main drawback of the currently used supports for document-holders is the limited and inflexible number of functions and situations which may be displayed. This does not allow the realization of a practical tickler system. This operational and functional inelasticity causes a further drawback. The documents remain in the pockets of the card index until they are cleared. At this stage they are passed on to other traditional files for cleared documents, but no indication is left in respect of their previous residence in the pocket of the card index. The object of this invention is to provide on information presenting a support for a document-holder which makes it possible to increase the amount of information presented.

According to the present invention there is provided an information presenting support for a document holder, the support comprising upper and lower strips inclined with respect to each other, the

a cursor is slidable said face having a groove in which may be mounted an indicator interchangeable with the cursor and said lower strip being adapted to support a document holder.

- 70 The support may have mobile indexes for scheduling, checking of due dates, statistical data and similar material.

The support may be applied especially in the field of the control systems of a certain kind of data relating for instance to a work schedule, because it makes it possible to plan, schedule and check the above data.

- Preferably the lower strip has a double guide parallel to the guide of the upper strip for the insertion of a number of further markers which are made to operate on three lines for the execution of statistical work and similar operations. These markers may display data capable of supplying a history of previous documents which have been held by the document holder.

Preferably also the rectilinear guide of the upper strip has arched top and bottom sides over which a marker may be positioned.

- The indicator which may be interchanged with the cursor may be formed from a plate divided by transverse lines of weakness into a plurality of sections so that a desired length of one or more sections may be broken off from the plate to act as the indicator. An indicator formed in this manner is referred to hereinafter as a preformed plate section. The preformed plate sections used may be of various colours and will have a surface which may be marked. Additionally the indicator, e.g. the preformed plate section, may be provided with a cursor.

- 100 The advantages of the support according to the invention are of considerable importance. First of all it should be noted that in the top part of the support it is possible to work along three parallel or superimposed lines instead of two, a fact which allows the broadening of the operating field of the tickler thus allowing the insertion of U shaped markers, which may be applied and removed with ease, thus making it possible to represent emergency situations or in any case situations which are at a hypothetical stage and awaiting further definition. Secondly, the interchangeability of the traditional cursor and one or more preformed plate sections provided with a writing surface, and equipped with an advancing cursor for the job card survey of previously scheduled situations, introduces a further working line thus permitting the presentation of all those operations which have heretofore been carried out on planning and statistical panels. Finally, another advantage which is in no way negligible is provided by the complete utilization of the lower strip of the support which allows the presentation of the history of the documents which have passed through the pockets of the card index.

The invention will be further described by way of example only with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the principle

shown in Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the marking elements which are mountable on the support shown in Figure 1;

5 Figure 4 is a perspective view showing an application of a support according to the invention. With reference to the above drawings, the reference numeral 1 shows in its entirety a support for a document-holding pocket. The drawings show a
10 pocket 2, designed to contain a certain number of documents, removably mounted on the support 1 which is itself a band-shaped component 3 subdivided into an upper strip 4 and a lower strip 5. The band-shaped element 3 is made of transparent
15 material and has at the top of the upper strip 4 a double bend which defines a seat 6 for the housing of two graded bottom-scales 7 and 27. The upper strip 4 is also provided with a rectilinear guide 8 in which a number of indexes, such as markers 9 for
20 instance, are slidable, each of which represents a certain function. These markers are placed according to the graduation of the scale which represents the time span (minutes, hours, days, weeks, months) where each of the functions represented by markers
25 9 much be fulfilled.

The outside wall of the rectilinear guide 8 has its top and bottom sides slightly arched in order to allow the application of one or more U shaped markers indicated as 10 which represent emergency
30 or still underfined situations.

The reference numeral 11 designates a cursor indicating the job card in progress or an index of the total engagement undertaken (maximum engagement) with a following index of a different colour for
35 the farthest limit. The cursor has a flat top part 12 which is slidable within seat 6 of bottom scale 7 as well as a bottom tongue 13 which is kept upright by a rail 14 which extends the whole length of the band-shaped element 3. The rail 14 is also the
40 dividing line between the top strip 4 and the bottom strip 5. When necessary, the cursor 11 may be removed and replaced by a preformed plate section 15, which presents a writing surface and which may be of any suitable small size, endowed in its rear part
45 with a rib 15a set at 90°, designed to fit into groove 16 produced in the top strip 4. In order to obtain a better fastening, rib 15a has side bulges 15b for pressure fitting the rib 15a in the groove 16. Plate 15 is also a slide bar for a knurled cursor 17 equipped
50 with a pair of tongues 17a which are hooked over the edges of plate 15, said cursor acting, for instance, as an index of job card in progress. In bottom strip 5 there is a double slide 18 in the shape of a double superimposed 'C', composed of slides 18a and 18b,
55 which are parallel to slide 8 and to groove 16. A number of further markers 19 is housed in each of the above slides 18a and 18b. The top and bottom sides of the double slide 18 are slightly arched in order to prevent, on the one hand, the ejection of
60 markers 19 and to allow on the other hand the mounting of one or more overmarkers 20 which may be of 'U' shape. At the base of the bottom strip 5 two

top part 22 of pocket 2 is fitted between the two tongues so that the part 22 of the pocket 2 rests on the rims 21.

It is to be noted that the removable pocket 2 may
70 be provided with a number of compartments, in the front or in the back, and with various clamping elements, which have not been shown since they are known and conventionally adopted.

With reference to figure 4 the band-shaped element 3 may be utilized without the removable pocket
75 2. Such application requires the employment of a horizontal rake-shaped panel 23, made up for instance of a metal plate or by suitably cut plastic supports. The components rest on special notches
80 24 which are well known. It is thus possible to provide a horizontal panel for the arrangement of programming statistical boards the production cost of which is reduced compared to the luminous or magnetic panels generally adopted for the same
85 purpose. Of course, besides the above mentioned embodiments, it is possible to introduce several variations in respect of the card index under discussion, without leaving, for this reason, the protection sphere of the invention.

90 CLAIMS

1. An information presenting support for a document holder, the support comprising upper and
95 lower strips inclined with respect to each other, the upper strip having an information conveying scale, a first upper guide along which one or more markers is or are slidable, a face below said guide across which a cursor is slidable, said face having a groove in
100 which may be mounted an indicator interchangeable with the cursor, and said lower strip being adapted to support a document holder.

2. A support according to claim 1 wherein the bottom strip has a double guide parallel to the guide
105 of the upper strip for the insertion of a number of further markers designed to operate along three lines for the execution of statistical surveys.

3. A support according to claim 2 wherein said double guide has a cross-section in the shape of a double superimposed 'C' for the insertion of two
110 lines of markers plus one top line which contains the two.

4. A support according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein said first upper guide has arched top and
115 bottom sides over which a marker may be positioned.

5. A support according to any one of claims 1 to 4 wherein the rear of said indicator has a central rib extending along the length of the indicator and
120 adapted to be insertable under pressure into said groove.

6. A support according to claim 5 wherein a slidable cursor is mounted on the indicator.

7. An information presenting support for a document holder substantially as hereinbefore described
125 with reference to Figures 1 to 3 or to Figure 4 of the accompanying drawings.

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